

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1333

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: FLANK SECURITY, SPC MEETING APRIL 21

REF: A. USNATO 1996 DTG 111440Z APR 75

 B. USNATO 2024 DTG 121900Z APR 75

 C. STATE 88619

BEGIN SUMMARY: SPC ON APRIL 21 AGAIN CONSIDERED DRAFT GUIDANCE TO AHG
ON FLANK SECURITY. DUTCH AND BELGIAN REPS STRONGLY OPPOSED ITALIAN
PROPOSAL TO DELETE REFERENCE TO GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION IN THE FORM

-
ULATION PART OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE. DUTCH, BELGIAN AND

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CANADIAN REPS FAVORED UK AMENDMENT OF THAT PART OF THE
DRAFT GUIDANCE. MISSION REQUESTS GUIDANCE FOR NEXT SPC MEETING ON
THIS SUBJECT IN PARA 12 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIOR TO THE DISCUSSION OF THE ITALIAN AND UK PROPOSALS, THE BELGIAN FOOTNOT TO THE FORMULATION PART OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE/REF A) UNDERWENT SLIGHT MODIFICATION TO REAS AS FOLLOWS: "THE QUESTION STILL REMAINS TO BE SETTLED BY THE ALLIES WHETHER OR NOT THESE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS SHOULD BE DEFINED AND, IF DEFINED, WHAT THEY SHOULD BE." GREEK REP (CORANTIS) DID NOT CRITICIZE THE BELGIAN FOOTNOTE, BUT SAID HE STILLNEEDED APPROVAL FROM ATHENS. ITALIAN REP (CIARRAPICO) REMAINED Slient. OTHER SPC MEMBERS APPEARED READY TO ACCEPT THIS FOOTNOTE.

2. SPC DEVOTED MOST OF THE DISCUSSION TO THE ITALIAN AND UK PROPOSAL AS THE PREVIOUS MEETING TO AMEND THE REFERENCE TO NON-CIRCUMVENTION IN THE FORMAULTATION.

3. NEHTERLANDS REP (MEESMAN) STRONGLY OPPOSED THE ITALIAN PROPOASL (PARA 4, REF B) TO DELETE THE PHRASE ON GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION (THE PHRASE WHICH BEGINS "OR CIRCUMVENT, ETC."). HE SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES ACTUALLY WANTED TO STRENGTHEN THE REFERENCE TO GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION. WHILE THEY COULD ACCEPT THE PRESENT LANGUAGE AS A COMPROMISE, THEY COULD UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES AGREE TO DELETION OF THE PRESENT REFERENCE TO GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION. SUCH A DELETION COULD ONLY GIVE THE OTHER SIDE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ALLIES DID NOT ATTACH MUCH IMPORTANCE TO GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION.

4. BELGIAN REP (WILLOT), WHOSE DELEGATION HAD PREVIOUSLY NOT SAID MUCH OF THIS POINT, STATED BELGIAN SUPPORT FOR THE DUTCH POSITION. HE SAID THERE WAS NO HOPE THAT BELGIUM COULD ACCEPT THIS DRAFT GUIDANCE WITH THE DELETION WHICH ITALY HAD PROPOSED. HE SAID THAT IF ITALY NOW WISHED TO DEAL WITH THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION AT A LATER DATE, THEN BELGIUM COULD ACCEPT CHANGING THE WORD "CIRCUMVENT" IN THE PRESENT DRAFT GUIDANCE TO "CONTRAVENE", "COUNTERACT", OR "RUN COUNTER TO". HOWEVER, THE IDEA HAD TO BE THERE, AND BELGIUM WOULD NOT AGREE TO DELETING THE PHRASE IN QUESTION.

5. NORWEGIAN REP (SKEIE) ALSO EXPRESSED OPPOSTION TO THE ITALIAN
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PROPOSAL.

6. ITALIAN REP MAINTAINED THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL. HE FURTHER PROPOSED THAT THE DELETION OF THE PHRASE ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION BE ACCCOMPANIED BY A FOOTNOTE REGISTERING ALLIED AGREEMENT THAT ALL CONCERNs CONTAINED IN THE DELETED PHRASE BE LATER CONSIDERED CAREFULLY IN THE CONTEXT OF GENERAL-NON-CIRCUMVENTION. NEHTERLANDS AND BELGIAN REPS SAID THAT THIS FOOTNOTE WOULD NOT HELP THEM. U.S. REP (MOORE), WHO HAD DISCUSSED THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL WITH THE DUTCH REP ON APRIL 18 , REMAINED SILENT ON THIS ISSUE PER REF C.

7. UK REP (BAILES), FURTHER EXPLAINED THE UK PROPOSED AMENDMENT (PARA 5, REF B) TO THE GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION PART OF THE FORMULATION. SHE STATED THAT HER AUTHORITIES WERE CONCERNED THAT THE OTHER SIDE WOULD INTERPRET REFERENCE TO REDEPLOYMENT TO REGIONS

"WHERE THEIR ADDED PRESENCE, ETC" AS A REFERENCE TO INDIRECT REDEPLOYMENT, UK COULD ACCEPT THIS VIS-A-VIS THE FLANKS, BUT NOT VIS-A-VIS GENERAL NON-CIRCUMVENTION, SINCE IT COULD CONCEIVABLY HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON UK FLEXIBILITY WITHIN THE UK.

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8. NETHERLANDS REP SAID THE NETHERLANDS COULD GO ALONG WITH THE UK PROPOSAL, SINCE IT STILL MAINTAINED THE REFERENCE TO NON-CIRCUMVENTION OF THE OBJECTIVE OF ENHANCING STABILITY AND SECURITY IN EUROPE. BELGIAN REP SAID HE THOUGHT BELGIUM WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE UK PROPOSAL. CANADIAN REP (BARTLEMAN) SAID HE THOUGHT CANADA COULD ALSO ACCEPT THE UK PROPOSAL. FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID FRG WAS FLEXIBLE ON THE NON-CIRCUMVENTIONPART OF THE GUIDANCE, AND COULD PROBABLY GO ALOND WITH THE MAJORITY. HE NOTED THAT IT WAS CLEAR FROM PARA 3(E) OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE THAT THE LLIES WOULD MAKE THEIR SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION AT A LATER DATE.

9. ITALIAN REP, AT ONE POINT IN THE DISCUSSION, RECALLED

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DATALANO'S STATEMENT IN THE NAC ON APRIL 18 THAT GUIDANCE TO AHG ON FLANK SECURITY IS NOT URGENT, AND BEHREND'S REPLY THAT THE GUIDANCE WAS IMPORTANT BUT NOT URGENT. HE SAID THAT A PERIOD OF REFLECTION MIGHT BE NECESSARY. TURKISH REP (GUR) REPLIED THAT GUIDANCE ON FLANK SECURITY WAS BOTH IMPORTANT AND URGENT IN THE TURKISH VIEW.

10. COMMENT: THE DUTCH, NOW SUPPORTED BY BELGIUM, CONTINUE STRONGLY TO DEFEND THE "OR CIRCUMVENT" PHRASE. ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO DELETE IT HAS NO SUPPORT IN SPC. NEITHER DOES ITALIAN PROPOSAL OF A FOOTNOTE TO REGISTER ALLIED AGREEMENT TO CONSIDER AT A LATER DATE ALL CONCERN IN THAT PHRASE. MISSION'S JUDGMENT FROM THIS MEETING IS THAT REFERENCE TO NON-CIRCUMVENTION IN THE FORMULATION PART OF THE GIDANCE IS ESSENTIAL TO EARLY SPC GUIDANCE ON FLANK SECURITY.

11. THE UK PROPOSED AMENDMENT DOES NOT APPEAR TO RAISE MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. HOWEVERWE DO NOT SHARE THE UK CONCERN THAT THE OTHER SIDE WOULD INTERPRET "ADDED PRESENCE" AS MEANING "INDIRECT REDEPLOYMENT." THE ORIGINAL SENTENCE IN THE BELGIAN FORMULATION LAST FALL DID CONTAIN A REFERENCE TO INDIRECT REDEPLOYMENT, WHICH SPC DROPPED AT U.S. REQUEST. (NOTE: THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF THIS SENTENCE WAS "FORCES WITHDRAWN ACCORDING TO THE PRESENT AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE REDEPLOYED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY IN GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS WHERE THEIR ADDED PRESENCE, ETC.," AND SPC AGREED TO DROP "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECLY") END COMMENT.

12 ACTION REQUESTED: IF POSSIBLE BY FRIDAY, APRIL 25, TO ALLOW CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED DELEGATIONS PRIOR TO APRIL 28 SPC MEETING:

A. U.S. REP REMAINED SILENT ON THE "OR CIRCUMVENT" PHRASE AT THIS MEETING PER INSTRUCTIONS. HOW THAT WE HAVE DUTCH AND OTHER REACTIONS TO ITALIAN PORPOSAL, MAY MISSION REITERATE OUR PREVIOUS ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PHRASE?

B. WHAT IS WASHINGTON VIEW ON UK AMENDMENT? IF NECESSARY FOR SPC AGREEMENT, MAY WE ACCEPT IT?

C. DOES WASHINGTON HAVE A PREFERENCE FOR ALTERNATIVES TO WORD "CIRCUMVENT" AS SUGGESTED BY BELGIAN REP IN PARA 4 ABOVE?

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